

INSIDE SPIRITS

A PUBLICATION FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

January/February 2009
Volume 12, Number 1

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Chair View, 2
ABC Stores Lead Green Effort, 3
Stock Supplies Are Turning Green, 4
Energy Conservation: A Look Back, 4
Reward and Recognition: E2, 4
Recycling with Associated Distributors, 5
Tempted to Hide a Can? Poster, 5
ABC Trains Geriatric Service Providers to Get Connected! 6
Spotlight Shines Bright on College Conference, 6
ABC Stays on Course, 7
Racing Legend Comes to Store 314, 7
Noteworthy, 8
ABC Awards Grant to Farmville Police, 8
Who Is the Employee Behind the Mask? 8
Names in the News, 9
Vassar Honored by Spirits Society, 9
Other Agencies to Copy MyABC? 10
John Alexander Has Gone Fishing, 10
Drive-Thru Service Not Available, 10
Store Damaged During Fire, 10
Do You Know Your ABC? 11
Brown and Murray Named SACs, 11

SPECIAL ISSUE: "ABC IS GOING GREEN"

ABOUT INSIDE SPIRITS

Inside Spirits is the employee newsletter of the Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC), providing current news about the agency, its activities and its employees.

The Public Affairs Division produces *Inside Spirits* electronically throughout the year as a service for the employees of Virginia ABC.

Please submit your story ideas and information about awards, media interviews or speaking engagements by e-mail to philip.bogenberger@abc.virginia.gov.

Newsletter Editorial Board

Philip Bogenberger, Editor
Will Moore, Graphic Designer
Linda Wine, Editorial Assistant

Going Green Makes Dollars and Sense

HELPING THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE BOTTOM LINE

ABOUT ONCE A WEEK, twice during the holiday season, a familiar truck pulls up to ABC Store 122 in Staunton. The driver and passenger are two recognizable faces. On this occasion, the two gentlemen are not on a shopping trip. However, they do want something from ABC, and employees are happy to give it to them.

The gentlemen are from the local food bank in Staunton. For several years they've come to the store to retrieve cardboard boxes that were previously used for shipping alcohol. The food bank packs donations in the boxes and distributes them to people who need food.

"We are doing our part in recycling," Assistant Manager Julie Chandler said. "Plus, when you can make a positive difference in the community, it makes you feel much more satisfied."

The food bank also collects boxes from Stores 75 and 302 in Staunton. Food banks throughout the state visit ABC stores to collect boxes (see pg. 3).

Charlottesville Store 185 Manager Larry Drumheller and the owner of a local produce company partnered to reuse cardboard boxes.

"The owner mentioned he could use boxes to pack his produce orders in," Drumheller said. "We thought this would be a great way to recycle cardboard."

The partnership is nearly 15 years old. A few years after the partnership began with Store 185, it was expanded to Store 125.

A produce-company employee comes by Store 185 to pick up boxes about once a week, sometimes twice, Drumheller said.

These stores are just a few of many ABC stores that contribute to charitable endeavors or partner with local businesses.



Store 185 Manager Larry Drumheller (left) and Store 125 Manager Ronald Rosario give boxes to an employee of a Charlottesville produce company to be reused.



Two people from the local food bank in Staunton pick up boxes used to pack donations.

"ABC is proud that the creativity of our store employees contributes to the community while furthering the agency's recycling efforts," said Virginia Adams, director of wholesale retail.

In accordance with Gov. Timothy M. Kaine's Environmental Stewardship initiative, ABC is constantly improving its envi-

(continued on page 4)

Virginia ABC is online at
www.abc.virginia.gov.

Virginia ABC is . . .

- A public safety agency with law enforcement responsibilities
- A major source of revenue for the Commonwealth
- An efficient retail business
- A provider of educational and prevention programs
- An administrative hearing agency

An integral part of Virginia ABC's mission is to control the distribution of alcoholic beverages while providing excellent customer service.

Virginia ABC relies on its employees to achieve high standards of organizational excellence in achieving our mission. The agency is committed to providing a productive and safe work environment and ample opportunities for employee training and development.

ABC Board

Pamela O'Berry Evans, Chair
Susan R. Swecker, Commissioner
Esther H. Vassar, Commissioner



Gov. Timothy M. Kaine

CHAIR View



Pamela O'Berry Evans

THE holiday season is a time to give thanks, celebrate with family and friends and reflect on the year soon to pass. During this time many employees will likely host or attend holiday gatherings. So that we may all greet 2009 with good health and happiness the Board takes this opportunity to offer our valued employees the following tips on celebrating safely and responsibly.

As we stress year-round, if you choose to consume alcohol, please enjoy it responsibly. The most important part of responsible consumption is to remember to never drink and drive. If you know that you will be consuming alcohol while attending a holiday party, make arrangements for a sober ride home. Designated drivers and taxicabs save lives. If you are a party host let your guests know ahead of time that drinking and driving is not acceptable.

If hosting, it is important not to serve any guests who are underage. We suggest locating the alcohol bar separate from the food or dessert table. This way there is no need for a person underage to enter that area and it is easier to monitor.

Also, as the host of a party it is important that you assist guests in being responsible if you offer alcohol. It is important that you do not serve a guest who is intoxicated. Do not rush to refill a guest's glass if they have finished a cocktail. Sometimes a guest may not want to consume more alcohol or wishes to drink at a slower pace, but is too polite to refuse if the host persists. Always have a trustworthy person serve drinks. This increases the likelihood that drinks will not contain an excessive amount of alcohol.

We recommend that party hosts offer alternatives to alcoholic drinks and serve foods high in protein such as meat and cheese. Foods that are high in protein slow down the absorption of alcohol into the bloodstream. Water, coffee and juices are

common non-alcoholic drinks. "Mocktails," which are pleasurable drinks without alcohol, are also suggested. Daiquiris and pina coladas can be made without alcohol and are popular mocktails.

The most important part of responsible consumption is to remember to never drink and drive. If you know that you will be consuming alcohol while attending a holiday party, make arrangements for a sober ride home. Designated drivers and taxicabs save lives.

Because ABC strives to continually improve its environmental efforts, we encourage party hosts to go "green" whenever possible. Consider using cloth napkins, recycled products and environmentally safe cleaning supplies.

Remember, your safety and the safety of guests should be the primary concern of any party host. Nothing dampens spirits quicker than an accident or injury that could have been avoided. If you choose to consume or offer alcohol during a gathering, we hope you do so responsibly to ensure a safe holiday season.

We wish you and your loved ones a happy and peaceful holiday season.

1934-2009

Virginia ABC's 75th Anniversary will be celebrated in 2009. Stay tuned for an upcoming special issue of *Inside Spirits* dedicated to this anniversary. If you are a long-serving employee and would like to share memorabilia or brief stories about the Virginia ABC of yesteryear, please contact Philip Bogenberger at Philip.Bogenberger@abc.virginia.gov.

ABC Stores Lead Green Effort

It's easy being green thanks to the efforts of employees. Check out what your coworkers have been doing at their stores to help the environment. Many stores have had recycling programs in place for years. A few current highlights are shown here.

Store 126

Kristine Widener from Store 126 in Nellysford gets in on the recycling act, taking cardboard to a receptacle.

Store 151

The Hopewell store routinely recycles cardboard boxes by giving them to the neighboring florist shop. The dividers make it handy for the florist to pack multiple plants in one box without spilling dirt or water. Store Manager Teresa Armato (right) gives boxes to the manager of the shop.

Store 153

Store 153 in Wytheville is popular with the local food banks. The Agape Food Pantry in Wytheville and the Pulaski SHARE Program reuse boxes to pack donations. Store Manager Susan Holman said each food bank comes to the store a few times a month. The Agape Food Pantry has up to 1,300 people signed up to receive food each month, while the SHARE Program provides about 2,000 boxes of food each month. In this picture, Holman (right) provides boxes to an Agape food bank worker.



Store 253

Store Manager Patricia Bishop contributes to ABC's "green" effort. ABC annually recycles an estimated 308 tons of cardboard.

Store 338

Store Manager Glenn Lindley and Assistant Manager Carl Simmers of Store 338 in Waynesboro deposit boxes in a recycling container.

Store 359

A member of the staff at Northside Library in Charlottesville picks up boxes for packing and transferring books to the library's other branches. He told Assistant Manager Chris Johnson that the boxes come in handy for book fairs too.

Store 122

Mary Baldwin College students come by the stores for boxes near the end of the school year as well. Store employees recycle plastic, glass and aluminum cans with their local trash pick up and send paper to the regional office to be recycled.



Stock Supplies Are Turning Green

EARLIER THIS YEAR, ABC began replacing conventional supplies with environmentally safe alternatives, which Gov. Timothy M. Kaine requested of all state agencies.

When supplies approach the low-stock point, the ABC environmental team researches effective "green" replacements. So far 14 supply items have been replaced with less than 10 more to go according to Deborah Gilliam, the material management coordinator for the "green team."

"We currently use the criteria of the green seal check mark," she said. "If it does not have this then we do not consider it a green item." The green seal check mark is considered the industry standard.

In addition, the green team has concluded that ABC can eliminate some products as well, which saves the agency money.

Some of the items already switched to environmentally safe counterparts include office paper, which has been replaced with recycled paper; rock salt used for sidewalks meets that green standard; and a

natural green cleaner instead of all-purpose cleaner 409. The response from stores has been positive.

"The most exciting green items are the blue plastic bags that are used in stores," Gilliam said. "They now have an additive in them that will cause them to begin to break down after one year and are completely biodegradable."



The green seal check mark is considered the agency standard.

A Look Back: Energy Conservation

WHILE THE WEATHER during the late fall and early winter of 1973 was changing from cold to bitter, a friendly competition between ABC stores was heating up.

In an effort to conserve energy, ABC stores challenged each other and themselves to reduce energy usage. Stores dimmed lights and turned down thermostats and recorded considerable savings.

Store 275 in Blackstone showed the largest percentage drop in energy usage, registering 71.9 percent less output during December compared to the same time the previous year.

Store Manager John A. Booker attributed the success to turning off all unnecessary lights. He collaborated with the local police department to determine which lights could be cut off after store hours without sacrificing security.

The store was not alone in recording drastic cuts in energy usage. In fact, more than a dozen stores cut their output by at least 50 percent.

The lowest total energy consumption came from Store 217, which was located in Alberta at that time. Also, Store 120 in Alexandria at that time, cut its natural gas usage by 69.4 percent.

In December 1973, Store 275 in Blackstone reduced energy output by 71.9 percent compared to the same month the previous year.

Overall, ABC enjoyed tremendous success cutting energy usage. Agency-wide there was a 14-percent reduction in electricity and a 21.8-percent drop in natural gas usage.

The energy situation that existed in late 1973 draws comparisons to the energy conditions that citizens face today. ABC employees have proven in the past that creative thinking can lead to positive outcomes even during tough times.

Going Green (continued from page 1)

ronmental efforts. As Commissioner Susan Swecker told a Charlottesville TV station, the benefits are two-fold.

"Not only are we doing something good for the environment," Swecker said during the interview. "It's good for ABC's bottom line."

ABC annually recycles approximately 308 tons of cardboard, 11 tons of shrink-wrap and 40 tons of paper. A cost center had to be created to show the profit in the budget due to the high volume of cardboard and shrink-wrap recycling.

ABC annually recycles approximately 308 tons of cardboard, 11 tons of shrink-wrap and 40 tons of paper.

The agency also brings in more than \$76,000 a year from recycling pallets, which covers packaging supplies for the Central Warehouse.

It's not just a win-win situation; it's green-green.

In October, the agency received its Environmental Enterprise certification as part of the Virginia Environmental Excellence Program from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (see below).

(continued on page 5)

Reward and Recognition



Director of Property Management Services Bob Southall (left) presents Chair Pamela O'Berry Evans with the Environmental Enterprise (E2) certification, welcoming ABC to the Virginia Environmental Excellence Program. ABC was accepted as an E2 participant in the program, which operates within the state Department of Environmental Quality.

"This accomplishment can be credited to the ongoing, collective effort of employees to ensure ABC continues to be a leader when it comes to environmental policy," Director of Property and Real Estate Management Bob Southall said.

The Enforcement Division has also joined the agency's environmental efforts by using green ammunition.

Practice ammo is generally made out of lead bullets that can have a negative environmental impact. Instead ABC, along with other police agencies, uses lead-free rounds at firing ranges.

The agency continues to explore innovative ways to help the environment, but ABC has been a leading state agency in environmental efforts for nearly 40 years.

In addition to recycling, ABC stores have used innovative techniques to lower energy usage. In 1973, stores competed against each other to see which one could reduce its energy usage the most (see pg. 4).

This past year, the agency launched its green Web page, "Greening the Virginia ABC." Plus, energy conservation plans were updated and the process is underway to switch to more environmentally friendly cleaning products (see pg. 4)

"ABC is proud that the creativity of our store employees contributes to the community while furthering the agency's recycling efforts."

—Virginia Adams, director of wholesale/retail

Employee-recycling programs were stepped up, although many stores already had similar voluntary programs in place.

The increased efforts by ABC were the subjects of media coverage.

At a national conference of control state representatives held in May, Swecker delivered a presentation about ABC's efforts and how other states could follow the agency's model.

Now, ABC is examining "green" retail spaces that have rooftop gardens, which improve air quality, conserve energy, reduce storm water runoff and help reduce heat during summer months.

Recycling with Associated Distributors



ABC has developed a partnership with Associated Distributors to recycle boxes in the Hampton Roads area, especially at Store 280 in Virginia Beach. Associated Distributors is a beverages retail and wines wholesale specialist located in Chesapeake. The company reuses the boxes to package wine shipments. Like ABC, the benefits for Associated Distributors include helping the environment and the bottom line. (Top) Empty boxes at Store 280 ready to be reused for shipping products. (Bottom) Associated Distributors' conveyor belt used for efficient packaging and shipping.

Paper recycling boxes are placed throughout ABC's Central Office, regional offices and stores. WHAT WORKS: white or colored office paper, envelopes, coated paper, file folders. Staples and paperclips are okay. WHAT DOESN'T WORK: Newspapers, magazines, phone books, paper ream wrappers.



Tempted to Hide a Can?

This poster was created to encourage employees to take their recyclables to receptacles located throughout the Central Office. The Virginia Environmental Excellence Program asked for some copies of the poster to be used as a model for other state agencies to follow. For years many stores have created their own programs, recycling paper, aluminum cans, plastic items and glass bottles. If you would like a copy of the poster for your ABC Store or Regional Office, please contact Linda Wine at (804) 213-4418 or Linda.Wine@abc.virginia.gov.

Please recycle this issue of Inside Spirits when you are finished reading it. Thank you!

ABC Trains Geriatric Service Providers to Get Connected!

By Regina Whitsett

THE VIRGINIA ABC Education Section, the Alcohol and Aging Awareness Group and the Virginia Center on Aging, VCU, sponsored a complimentary one-day training session for 65 service providers of older adults on September 24 at VCU Student Commons. The training was presented by Lisa Patton, Ph.D., and Dianne McElroy, M.A., of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

The morning session covered techniques on increasing provider comfort levels to assist service providers in discussing alcohol misuse or alcohol and medication interactions with their patients and families.

The afternoon session included training on the Get Connected! Toolkit, a SAMHSA and National Council on Aging publication, that provides strategies to link service providers with substance abuse and mental health experts or organizations in their communities.

The audience also viewed an emotional DVD titled, "It Can Happen to Anyone", that described real-life situations with alcohol and medications misuse among older adults.

If you should need resources on this important public health issue, please contact ABC Education Coordinator Regina Whitsett at Regina.Whitsett@abc.virginia.gov or (804) 213-4445.

1934-2009

Virginia ABC's 75th Anniversary will be celebrated in 2009. Stay tuned for an upcoming special issue of *Inside Spirits* dedicated to this anniversary. If you are a long-serving employee and would like to share memorabilia or brief stories about the Virginia ABC of yesteryear, please contact Philip Bogenberger at Philip.Bogenberger@abc.virginia.gov.

Spotlight Shines Bright on College Conference

ANNUAL EDUCATION EVENT IS A BLOCKBUSTER

ABC WAS BACK AT THE BEACH for the 23rd Annual College Conference, focusing on methods to combat high-risk and underage drinking, drug use and impaired driving among students.

Students from approximately 20 colleges and universities attended the conference, which returned to Virginia Beach this year. ABC hosted the conference, which was funded through the Virginia Highway Safety Office.

The conference is the longest running of its kind nationwide and attendance increased compared to last year.

"College Conference empowers students to make the right decisions concerning alcohol by avoiding underage and high-risk drinking," ABC Commissioner Esther Vassar said. "This year's conference was an inspiring, interactive and educational experience."

The conference, themed Lights! Camera! ACTION!, featured Hollywood-style events with high-energy entertainment. Attendees walked the red carpet, posed for photographers, listened to award-winning presentations and participated in a video public service announcement (PSA) contest.

"We were very impressed by the students' PSA submissions," said Education Coordinator Marisa Harris, the conference organizer. "I am confident that the attendees will take action by spreading their message with peers on their campuses."

A team from Virginia Union won the PSA contest with assistance provided by ABC Special Agent Denise Klugh from Region 5. Each team worked with an agent to write, direct and produce a PSA. ABC's Education Section judged the submissions.

In addition to the PSA contest, the three-day conference's highlights included ABC Commissioner Vassar's opening remarks, five feature presentations and keynote speaker Matt Bellace.

Bellace is a comedian, Ph.D. and motivational speaker who founded a successful grassroots prevention group that was praised by former Bucknell University President William Adams.

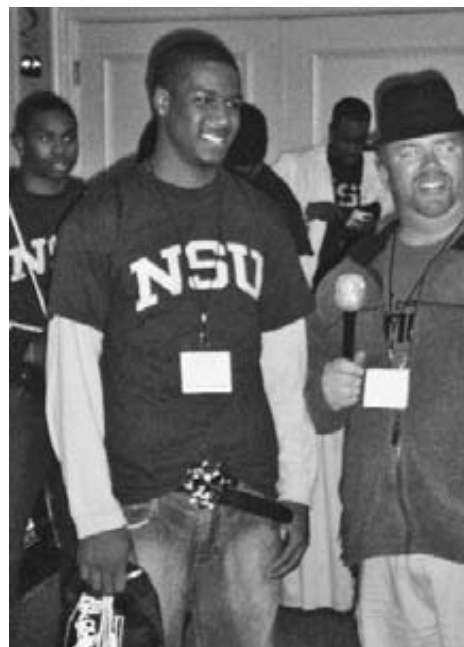
To view additional photos check out ABC's Web site www.abc.virginia.gov.



Conference planner Marisa Harris (left) sits with fellow Education Coordinator Steve Hammond during the 23rd Annual College Conference.

"I am confident that the attendees will take action by spreading their message with peers on their campuses."

— Marisa Harris, Education Coordinator



Special Agent Jesse Tate (right) from Region 2 interviews students as they walk the red carpet entering the College Conference.

ABC Stays on Course

WEATHER COOPERATES FOR ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

MOVE OVER TIGER WOODS, ABC hit the links for the Fifth Annual ABC Golf Classic.

Torrential downpours gave way long enough for employees, family members and industry associates to complete the 18-hole event at Ocean View Golf Course in Norfolk, on September 16.

In the end, three regional managers and an industry associate emerged with a one-stroke victory. Bill Fritts, Les Morris, Mike Zingraff and Bob Kovalcheck finished ahead of 12 teams and set an event record by shooting 10-under par.

"Somehow the rains dissipated long enough to allow for a good time to be had by all," said Zingraff, the event organizer.

Ronnie Cravedi and Leon Coleman won the closest to the pin awards, and the longest drive belonged to Gary Sibayan.

In 2004, the inaugural event consisted of 24 players. Zingraff said the outing started as a simple idea to allow ABC employees, active and retired, and vendors to participate in an activity and socialize outside the work setting. The amount of participants has more than doubled since the first year.

He attributes the continued success of the event to "the weather cooperating the last five years and the participants making the extra effort by traveling from across the state."

GOLF CLASSIC RESULTS

Closest to the pin #4

- Ronnie Cravedi (retired store 336 manager, Virginia Beach)

Closest to the pin #13

- Leon Coleman (Special Agent In Charge, Chesapeake)

Longest Drive #8

- Gary Sibayan (Republic National Distributing Company)

First Place (10-under par)

- Bill Fritts (ABC Regional Manager, Lynchburg)
- Bob Kovalcheck (Associated Distributors)
- Les Morris (ABC Regional Manager, Charlottesville)
- Mike Zingraff (ABC Regional Manager, Chesapeake)

Second Place (9-under)

- Sean Land (RNDC)
- Kevin Michaels (RNDC)
- Gary Sibayan (RNDC)
- Troy Waller (RNDC)

Third Place (6-under)

- Ronnie Cravedi (retired Store 336 manager, Virginia Beach)
- Bob Morris (retired Store 256 manager, Virginia Beach)
- Curlee Overton (Store 256 assistant manager, Virginia Beach)



The rains gave way for just enough time to allow ABC employees, family members and industry associates to enjoy some recreation time during the Fifth Annual ABC Golf Classic.

Racing Legend Comes to ABC Store 314

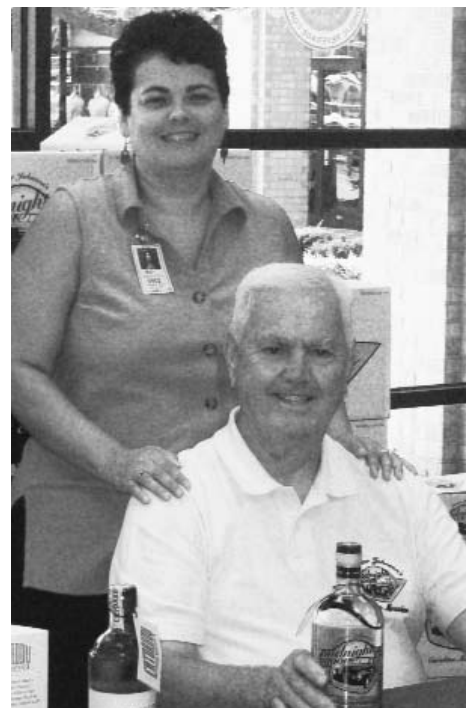
DURING THE DAY, Robert Glen "Junior" Johnson, Jr. was a racecar driver who turned into a NASCAR legend. By night he was running moonshine from his father's still on the winding mountain roads of Wilkes County, NC. His latest venture into the alcohol business has him on the right side of the law.

This past September, Johnson was at ABC Store 314 in Richmond promoting Midnight Moon, a legal and refined version of his father's liquor.

As legend goes, Johnson was never caught behind the wheel of a car with the contraband alcohol due to his incredible driving talent and modified vehicle. However, authorities did catch Johnson at his father's still, and he was convicted of moonshining one year into his NASCAR career.

Thereafter, Johnson decided to stop moonlighting as a bootlegger on the back roads of North Carolina in favor of showcasing his driving skills on the racetrack full time.

If you choose to drink Midnight Moon, please enjoy it responsibly.



Store 314 Manager Denise Phillips and NASCAR legend Junior Johnson.

Noteworthy

CVC off to a Great Start

The internal audit division kicked off the Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign (CVC) when Casual Day buttons went on sale at the beginning of October. Also, ABC held a CVC bake sale and charity fair to officially begin the campaign. One of the charities invited was the Central Virginia Food Bank (CVFB). ABC employees have been a frequent contributor to the CVFB. Also, a "spud-stravaganza" and silent auction were held at the Central Office in November to benefit the CVC. Internal Audit Manager Nannette Williams is this year's primary CVC coordinator.

ABC Reaches Out to Citizens

The most recent round of Community Advisory Council (CAC) meetings were concluded December 3 in Alexandria. CAC meetings were held in the East Region on September 26, the West Region on October 26 and the South Region on November 14. The council is designed to provide insight and resources to improve communication

(continued on page 11)

ABC Awards Grant to Farmville Police



ABC Special Agent in-Charge Buddy Driskill (left) and Special Agent Steve Lindsey presented a \$5,000 grant check to Farmville Police Department (FPD) Chief S.O. Dunnivant. The money was requested by the FPD to curb underage alcohol consumption by conducting party patrol operations in the town of Farmville. ABC also awarded grants to the Colonial Heights Police Department, James City County Police Department, Ashland Police Department, Pittsylvania County Sheriff's Department and Middlesex County Sheriff's Department.

Who Is the Employee Behind the Mask?

ABC employees brought cartoon characters and action figures to life at the Central Office on October 30. You may have seen Joe and Josephine the Plumbers strolling down the hall with a rebel fighter from Star Wars. They were not discussing politics or pondering the fate of the universe, rather, they were participating in the annual ABC Halloween Costume Contest.



CONTEST RESULTS

Most Authentic

Stewie from Family Guy
(Tanya Buresh-Werby)

Scariest

Witch (Nannette Williams)

Funniest

70s Dude/Kiss Groupie (Craig Vanderland)

Best Action Figure

Indiana Jones (Charlie Lintecum)

Fictional Character

Rebel Fighter (Alan Slonaker)

Most Creative

Mad Hatter (Handan Mason)

Best Pair

Joe and Josephine the Plumbers
(Curtis Coleburn, Susan Swecker)

People's Choice Costume

Tanya Buresh-Werby as Stewie.

Pumpkin Carving

Arlissa Grooms-Washington for her Barack Obama pumpkin.

Candy Corn Count

Mattie Taylor.

Pumpkin Weight Guess

Terry Phillips, Robin Fox, Kendra Hemmingson.



Employees participate in ABC's version of a masquerade ball to celebrate Halloween.

Names in the News

AUGUST 1, 2008–OCTOBER 31, 2008 (COMPILED BY KATHY LAWHORNE)

NEW HIRES

Annunziata, Laura M.
Administrative Office Specialist III
Enforcement, Hampton

Bailey, Ghia R.
Auditor II
Internal Audit

Baral, Chandra P.
Retail Specialist II
Store 322, Centreville

Billups, Theodore A.
Retail Specialist II
Store 226, Norfolk

Brunson, Jacqueline R.
Procurement Officer II
Purchasing

Davis, Tyrone
Retail Specialist II
Store 328, Chesapeake

Dolan, Katherine A.
Retail Specialist II
Store 101, Richmond

Doss, Anthony S.
Trades Technician III
Stores Renovations

Geary, Jennifer
Retail Specialist II
Store 271, Woodbridge

Grant, Brian R.
Retail Specialist II
Store 225, Virginia Beach

Guan, Sen
Info Technology Specialist II
W/R Systems Support

Hammond, Steven
Education Support Specialist III
Education, Enforcement

Hoffer, Hans B.
Retail Specialist II
Store 242, Richmond

Howdysheill, Debra
Retail Specialist II
Store 184, Harrisonburg

Hyde, Brian M.
Retail Specialist II
Store 202, Charlottesville

Jamerson, Angela L.
Retail Specialist II
Store 281, Madison Heights

Loney, Raphael O.
Info Technology Specialist II
ITSD

Manis, Laurie H.
Retail Specialist II
Store 069, Chesapeake

Mosman, Courtney A.
Auditor II
Internal Audit

Murray, Donald J.
Retail Specialist II
Store 086, Bon Air

Nay Gina M.
Retail Specialist II
Store 112, Hampton

Nouse, Todd W.
Retail Specialist II
Store 352, Reston

Omer, Amira M.
Retail Specialist II
Store 083, Fairfax

Owenby, Joe D.
Retail Specialist II
Store 243, Ashland

Pellegrino, Diane L.
Trades Technician III
Stores Maintenance

Poland, Angelica M.
Retail Specialist II
Store 041, Herndon

Poling, Jordan S.
Retail Specialist II
Store 296, Springfield

Shukla, Dipak K.
Retail Specialist II
Store 319, Arlington

Sobkowicz, Stanley J.
Retail Specialist II
Store 066, Bealeton

Tedla, Amanuel G.
Retail Specialist II
Store 049, Ballston

Van Steelant, Donald R.
Retail Specialist II
Store 054, Stone Ridge

Wahab, Mohamed H.
Retail Specialist II
Store 235, Alexandria

Wenzig, Barry M.
Financial Services Manager II
Accounting

Womack, Dwayne C.
Retail Specialist II
Store 361, Portsmouth

Wright, Joseph D.
Trades Technician III
ABC Building

Yuen, Faythe J.
Retail Specialist II
Store 086, Bon Air

Miltier, Cynthia M.
Retail Manager II
Store 370, Virginia Beach

Rojas, Giovanni D.
Retail Manager II
Store 128, Norfolk

Woods, William E.
Retail Manager II
Store 062, Fredericksburg

RETIREMENTS

Altman, William D.
Law Enforcement Manager II
Enforcement, Richmond
(33 yrs of service)

Gaskill, Dallas B.
Law Enforcement Officer III
Enforcement, Fairfax
(30 yrs of service)

Johnson, James H.
Retail Manager II
Store 140, Lexington
(31 yrs of service)

Lewis, Rose D.
Administrative Office Specialist III
Accounting (33 yrs of service)

McChesney, Nancy R.
Retail Manager II
Store 370, Virginia Beach
21 yrs of service

Stanley, Claude T.
Information Technology Manager I
ITSD (29 yrs of service)

Stevenson, Elsie R.
Retail Manager I
Store 174, Grundy
(33 yrs of service)

Williams, Sherrye S.
Retail Specialist II
Store 201, Abingdon
(29 yrs of service)

PROMOTIONS

Atkinson, Melanie D.
Retail Manager II
Store 261, Winchester

Brown, Donnie W.
Law Enforcement Manager II
Enforcement, Richmond

Crowder, William E.
Retail Manager II
Store 140, Lexington

Harper, William T.
Retail Manager II
Store 188, Virginia Beach

McMurray, Glenn M.
Law Enforcement Manager II
Enforcement, Roanoke

Vassar Honored by Spirits Society

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Commissioner Esther H. Vassar was inducted into the George Washington Spirits Society (GWSS) last night for her dedication to social responsibility, tireless support of integration and equal opportunity and a lifetime of charitable endeavors.

"It is a tremendous honor to be recognized by the George Washington Spirits Society," Vassar said. "They understand the importance of social responsibility when people 21 and older are enjoying alcohol, which ABC promotes through educational and public safety programs."



ABC Commissioner Esther Vassar (right) stands with U.S. Senator Tom Harkin, a fellow inductee into the George Washington Spirits Society.

Vassar was bestowed the honor of "Guardian of His Spirit" and presented a medal with President Washington's likeness on it. She was also given the first brick laid at the original distillery more than 200 years ago.

The GWSS, created in 2002, recognizes distinguished individuals who best exemplify the outstanding qualities exhibited by the nation's first President. The annual Industry Heritage Dinner took place at Mount Vernon, Washington's home.

Other inductees included U.S. Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA), former Oklahoma Gov. Frank Keating and two industry executives.

Other Agencies to Copy MyABC?

MYABC MAY NOT BE JUST for you any more. Replicas of the MyABC application could soon be utilized by other state agencies.

Recently, the Virginia Enterprise Applications Program (VEAP) had the opportunity to view a demonstration of the completely paperless system, which significantly reduces the time it takes for payroll and human resource specialists to perform some of their responsibilities. VEAP was so impressed with the application that they recommended other agencies should research how a similar system could benefit them, and ABC was happy to help.

"ABC is excited to have VEAP and other agencies so interested in our homegrown solution," said ABC Chair Pamela O'Berry Evans. "We are committed to assisting others in successful implementation of the application."

ABC hosted a formal demonstration of MyABC in October for approximately 60 employees representing the information technology, human resources and payroll divisions of 16 Virginia agencies. Attendees were able to view how the system works and ask questions about its creation and functionality.

State Comptroller David VonMoll was highly complimentary of the application's potential to considerably automate work being performed within other agencies.

MyABC was created in 2003 as a collaborative project between the Human Resources and Information Technology Services Divisions to develop a convenient, user-friendly system for ABC employees.

"MyABC is an invaluable resource that streamlines many of the HR Division's functions," said Human Resources Director Janet Lawson.

The Web-based application enables employees to access their personal information, view training available, register for training and link to other sites such as Payline and the Department of Human Resource Management.

John Alexander Has Gone Fishing

SPECIAL AGENT IN-CHARGE John Alexander has an extensive record of public service. Before recently concluding his more than 30-year career at ABC, he worked for the City of Richmond as a tax auditor.

"John represented the best of ABC," Enforcement Director Frank Monahan said. "He maintained a complete awareness and dedication to the elements that contributed to our rich history but was always ready, able and willing to embrace change and innovation. John will be missed not only for his leadership and expertise but also the friendship he gave to all of us."

Following his retirement gathering at the Central Office with friends and colleagues, John said, "I will miss the people here the most." Although, he added that he will have more time to travel and fish. Congratulations on your retirement John!



Friends and colleagues gathered to bid Special Agent In-Charge John Alexander a fond farewell.

Drive-Thru Service Not Available



The Alexandria Regional Office does not offer drive-thru service to customers, but that did not stop a student driver from accidentally crashing a Toyota Camry through the front doors of the regional office. No injuries were reported despite the car plowing nearly 40 feet into the building. Firefighters cleared debris and removed the vehicle. The building was determined to be structurally sound. Agents were reassigned to alternate locations to ensure workflow was not interrupted.

Store Damaged During Fire



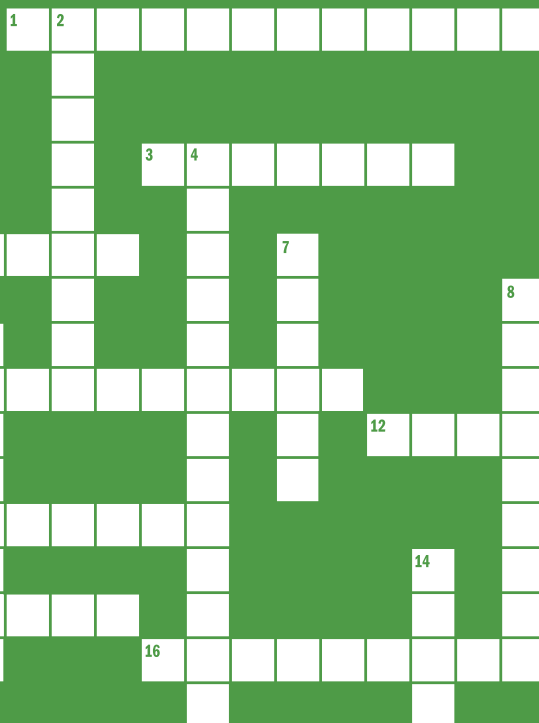
Store 068 in Harrisonburg suffered significant damage on September 11 when an early-morning fire spread from a neighboring Chinese restaurant in the Rockingham Square Shopping Center. Due to the efforts of firefighters, the blaze did not reach the ABC store. However, the smoke and water damage were significant and the roof had to be ventilated. According to the Daily News Record, a Harrisonburg newspaper, the investigation by fire officials points to arson as the cause. A reward is being offered in the case.

RECOGNIZE RETIREES If you know of an ABC employee who is about to retire with more than 20 years of state service, please let us know. E-mail the Inside Spirits editor with the name, position, a brief description and a photo of the employee.

Do You Know Your ABC?

TRY THIS CROSSWORD TO TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Many of the answers can be found within this edition of the Inside Spirits. For the answers, please visit the ABC Intranet, and click on "Inside Spirits."



ACROSS

1. An ABC store in ____ was damaged by fire in September.
3. Last name of the keynote speaker from this year's College Conference
6. ABC stores throughout the Commonwealth contribute to their communities by recycling boxes through their local food ____.
9. Last name of former Assistant Special Agent In-Charge from Region 6 recently promoted to Special Agent In-Charge
11. ABC annually recycles an estimated 308 tons of ____.
12. ABC recently began offering ____ cards for increased customer service.
13. Charlottesville Store 185 and the owner of a local ____ company partnered to reuse cardboard boxes.
15. When ABC Special Agents train at the range, they use environmentally friendly ____.
16. ABC Special Agent In-Charge Buddy Driskill and Special Agent Steve Lindsey presented a grant check the chief of the ____ Police Department.

DOWN

2. Last name of the Special Agent In-Charge who retired after 30 years of service at ABC
4. ABC received its E2 certification from the Virginia ____ Excellence Program.
5. Last name of the former NASCAR legend that appeared at a Richmond ABC store to promote his Midnight Moon product
7. In late 1973, ABC stores challenged each other to reduce the amount of ____ each store used.
8. ABC Store 359 in Charlottesville recycles boxes by giving them to the neighboring ____ Library.
10. Last name of former Assistant Special Agent In-Charge from Region 1 recently promoted to Special Agent In-Charge?
14. Nearly 50 ABC employees, family and associates participated in the 5th Annual ABC ____ Classic in September?

Noteworthy (continued from page 8)

between residents, community organizations, establishment owners and ABC.

Agent Helps Nab Violent Suspect

A common misconception some citizens have is that ABC special agents only conduct underage buyer and administrative investigations. In fact, agents have a wide range of duties as part of being fully sworn police officers. A suspect in Roanoke found that out the hard way. Special Agent Dave Scott responded to a request to assist Roanoke City officers with a violent assault and attempted robbery at a local hotel. The suspect allegedly attacked the clerk with a weapon and fled the scene. Scott assisted in the perimeter search and located the suspect in the surrounding neighborhood. The suspect was charged with the crime and as well as numerous outstanding warrants.

Brown and Murray Named SACs



Donnie Brown from Region 6 and Glenn McMurray from Region 1 were promoted to Special Agents In-Charge during a swearing-in ceremony conducted by ABC Chair Pamela O'Berry Evans and attended by the Board, agency executives and guests. From the left: Deputy Director of Enforcement Shawn Walker, Chair Evans, Brown, McMurray and Director of Enforcement Frank Monahan.

Please recycle this issue of **Inside Spirits** when you are finished reading it. Thank you!

